December 28, 2020 - January 1, 2021 Weekly Index Research Update



New York, New York, 10022

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The CrowdBureau® Peer-to-Peer Lending and Equity Crowdfunding Index (CBP2PTR) ended the last week, recording a gain of 3.61%, to finish December 31, 2020, with a value of 44.23. Closing the month of December, the index gained 2.41%. On April 3, 2020, when the index hit its lowest point for the year at a value of 31.98 since recovered 38.31%. However, the mixed cumulative performance was not enough to pull the index into positive territory, leaving it at -23.78% on a year-to-date basis. (**Refer to the Chart of the Week**).

Major U.S. benchmarks recorded higher results for the week, attributed to President Trump signing the fiscal relief bill, optimism about vaccine distributions, and continued support of monetary policy aid to support economic recovery. The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) advanced 1.35% to end at 30,606.48, while the S&P 500 index (SPX) rose 1.43% to finish at 3,756.07. The Nasdaq Composite (COMP) recorded 0.65%, climbing to 12,888.28. On the other hand, small cap companies measured by the Russell 2000 benchmark declined -1.45% to close at 1,974.86 for the week.

The Census Bureau reported mixed U.S economic data on Wednesday; the U.S. trade deficit in goods moved up to \$84.8 billion in November from \$80.4 billion the month prior, and wholesale inventories reduced by 0.1%, during the same period. The Chicago area purchasing managers index rose to 59.5 in December. Pending home sales dropped by 2.6% in November, according to the National Association of Realtors. China's economic data finished 2020 with its 10th consecutive month of expansion in the manufacturing sector, Beijing's official barometer for factory activity finished the year lower at 51.9, the reading was modestly off from October that had a 52.1 reading. China's economy also outperformed outside of factories, nonmanufacturing PMI, which covers services like aviation, retail, and software, as well as the construction and real estate sectors, registered 55.7 in December. According to some economist, forecasts for gross domestic product (GDP) growth in the fourth quarter and full year 2020 is expected to be more than 6% and 2%, respectively.

The 10-year U.S. Treasury note yield TMUBMUSD10Y, decreased 2.73 basis point to 0.919%, declining less than 1% for the year. Oil futures were up, with the U.S. benchmark CL.1, added 0.31% to settle at \$48.52 a barrel, but falling -23.14% for 2020. February gold futures GC00 eked out 1.83% to settle at \$1895.10, an ounce. Gold values gained 23.27% for the year.

Abroad, Hong Kong's Hang Seng index advanced 3.20% for the week but retrenched to -3.40 to conclude in 2020. China's Shanghai Composite index increased by 3.27% and soared 13.87% to end the year. The pan-European Stoxx 600 index rose 1.17%. Still, it remains -3.44% to close the year.

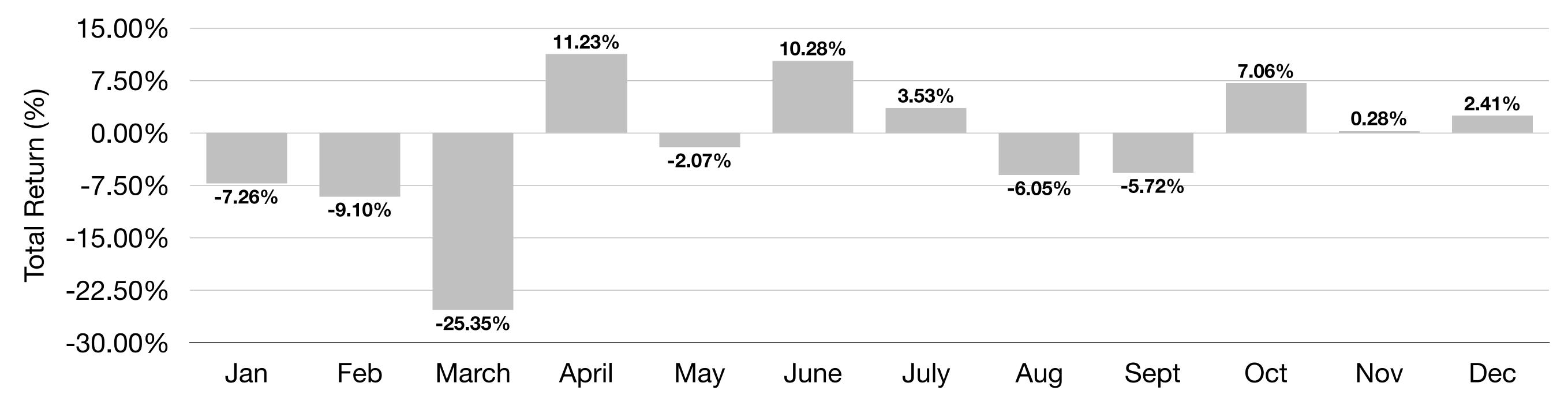
The CrowdBureau® Peer-to-Peer Lending and Equity Crowdfunding Index (CBP2PTR) registered 3.61% for the last trading week for 2020, benefiting from shares increasing for twenty out of the 36 members. Twelve of the 17 P2P Marketplace lenders landed in positive territory, including U.S. marketplace lender LendingClub (LC) gained 19.73% after the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency approved the acquisition of Radius Bank. The combined entity may allow the firm to achieve a competitive advantage as an online marketplace that can scale beyond retail peer-to-peer lending products. At the same time, LendingTree (TREE) and GreenSky (GSKY) dropped -1.32% and -0.64%, respectively. Shares in eleven of the fourteen China-based marketplace online lenders outperformed, even after the New York Stock Exchange reported delisting proceedings in the three largest Chinese telecommunications companies to comply with an executive order by President Donald Trump targeting companies affiliated with China's military. However, three constituents ended in the red for the week, including 9F Inc. (JFU) -13.33%, Jiayin Group Inc. (JFIN) -5.66%, Weidai Ltd. (WEI) -5.00%. Advancing share prices included LexinFintech Holdings Ltd. (LX) 1.67%, Senmiao Technology Limited (AIHS) 2.88%, X Financial (XYF) 3.09%, Jianpu Technology Inc. (JT) 4.47%, Xiaobai Maimai (HX) 6.93%, 360 DigiTech Inc. (QFIN) 8.76%, Yiren Digital Ltd. (YRD) 9.51%, Qudian Inc. (QD) 12.20%, FinVolution Group (FINV) 13.14%, CN Finance Holdings Limited (CNF) 13.78%, and SOS Limited (SOS) jumped 17.46%.

Goldman Sachs Group Inc. (GS), the constituent that comprises the Financial Institutions with a dedicated lending platform segment of the index gained 2.95% to \$263.53.

The Social Networking platforms performance ended the week mixed. These included Square Inc. (SQ) -4.66%, PayPal Holdings Inc. (PYPL) -1.86%, MercadoLibre Inc. (MELI) -0.90%, Facebook Inc. (FB) 2.15%, Amazon.com Inc. (AMZN) rallied to 2.66% after the firm announced that the "Other" unit, which comprised of online ad revenue, is accelerating faster than its retail business, recording \$21 billion for the year, a 47% rise from 2019. PagSeguro Digital Ltd. (PAGS) 5.69%.

The twelve constituents that comprise of the Providers of Technology and Software Solutions segment of the Index experienced eight companies whose share prices decreased including, Dun & Bradstreet Holdings Inc. (DNB) -6.00%, Enova International Inc.(ENVA) -3.92% TransUnion (TRU) -1.73%, Fair Isaac Corporation (FICO) -1.43%, Elevate Credit Inc. (ELVT) -0.99%, Equifax Inc. (EFX) -0.58%, Green Dot Corporation (GDOT) -0.45%, CoreLogic Inc. (CLGX) -0.23%. In contrast shares in Fidelity National Information Services Inc. (FIS) rose 0.48%, Fiserv Inc. (FISV) ticked up 1.09%, OneMain Holdings Inc. (OMF) increased by 3.08% and Global Payments Inc. (GPN) added 4.80%.

Cumulative Monthly Total Return Performance Results for the Full Year 2020: CrowdBureau Peer-to-Peer Lending and Equity Crowdfunding Index (CBP2PTR)



Source: CrowdBureau Corporation

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ABOUT CROWDBUREAU CORPORATION

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